

BRUCE BABBITT, Governor

SUZANNE DANDOY, M.D., M.P.H., Director

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH S

Division of Environmental Health

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December 12, 1979

SFUND RECORDS CTR 2390578

Dr. Lynn Wallace Office of Environmental Health Phoenix Area Office, Indian Health Services 801 E. Indian School Road Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Dr. Wallace:

RE: Tri-City Landfill

As we indicated to you in our meeting of November 27, we believe that your "Protocol for Developing Solid Waste Disposal Plan, Salt River Reservation", dated October 1979, adequately defines the general environmental issues that need to be studied at the Tri-City Landfill, with the following qualifications:

- The protocol should include provision for studies on ground water monitoring wells, i.e., where such wells should be located and in what design and numbers. The study should also provide advice on the parameters for which well samples should be tested and the preferred frequency of testing.
- The protocol should include provisions to determine whether hazardous wastes are being, or have been disposed of at the landfill. If hazardous wastes are detected, the study should determine the nature, composition, and quantity of such wastes, and should recommend measures to mitigate any adverse environmental impacts from such wastes.
- The protocol should provide that testing and studies be conducted by qualified persons, including landfill engineers, flood control specialists, hydrogeologists, and soil scientists.
- The protocol should provide that the study also develop reasonably expeditious implementation schedules for any environmental protection measures or monitoring programs recommended in the study.

Dr. Lynn Wallace Page 2 December 12, 1979

Based on our discussions on the 27th, it is also our understanding that you will develop a schedule for retaining the consultants needed to study the questions raised in the protocol, and a tentative schedule for commencement and completion of the consultants' work. You indicated that these schedules would be available by December 4, 1979.

Regarding the priority of the various issues addressed in the protocol, we believe that those issues relating directly to environmental quality and public health should be given first attention. Such issues would include the scope of the hazardous waste problem, the potential for ground and surface water contamination, the suitability of the site for future landfill use, and the nature of protective measures needed (e.g., liners, dikes) to prevent environmental degradation or public health threats.

We greatly appreciate your efforts in this matter and fully support the project.

Sincerely,

R. Bruce Scott, P.E. Assistant Director

RBS:DSB:jr

cc: Honorable Herschel Andrews, President Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Clinton M. Pattea, Executive Secretary Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs

Honorable Barbara vonAmmon, Mayor Town of Paradise Valley

Harry Seraydarian, Chief Hazardous Materials Section, U.S. EPA, Region IX

Ted Williams, Deputy Director

David S. Baron, Asst. Attorney General

John H. Beck, Chief, Bureau of Sanitation

Barry Abbott, Manager, Solid Waste Section

Mark Frank, Maricopa Assoc. of Governments

John Power, Maricopa County Health Dept.

Charles K. Luster, Mesa City Manager

Tim Bray, Acting Scottsdale City Manager

Kenneth A. McDonald, Tempe City Manager